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CATALOGUE

OF

A FEW PIECES

OF

FINE SCULPTURE

INCLUDING

A MAGNIFICENT ANCIENT GREEK STATUETTE OF APHRODITE,

Circa 300 B.C.

Day of Sale.

TUESDAY, THE 12TH OF JUNE,

Immediately following the Sale of Gen. Sir John Maxwell's Egyptian Antiquities.

1928.

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CATALOGUE

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A FEW PIECES

OF

FINE SCULPTURE

INCLUDING

A MAGNIFICENT ANCIENT GREEK STATUETTE OF APHRODITE,

Circa 300 B.C.

WHICH WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

BY MESSRS.

SOTHEBY AND Co.

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Immediately following the Sale of Gen. Sir John Maxwell's Egyptian Antiquities.

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CATALOGUE

OF

A FEW PIECES

OF

FINE SCULPTURE,

Which will be Sold immediately after Gen. Sir John Maxwell's Collection of Egyptian Antiquities.

Tuesday, June 12th, 1928.

LOT

1 An Egyptian Inlay in the form of a face, $1\frac{1}{4}$ *in. high,* in turquoise blue opaque glass. **[Pl. I]**

2 Another, $2\frac{1}{2}$ *in. high,* in white opaque glass covered with a mottled brownish paste, possibly intended to reproduce the colouring of a southerner; the wig has evidently been of the short rounded type, the neck is shaped to fit into a necklace; the modelling is good; the artist has made two attempts to place the eye; *an interesting specimen.* **[Pl. I]**

3 Another, $1\frac{1}{16}$ *in. high,* in dull green stone, finely modelled. **[Pl. I]**

4 **A HEAD OF A JEW,** $\frac{5}{8}$ *in. high,* in pale bluish green glazed faience, the eyes, hair and beard in black, *fine and very rare, found at Memphis in* 1909 :—on stand in glass case. [**Pl. I**, *three views of which one is enlarged*]

⁂ This is a choice instance of the lighter mood of Egyptian art. With a keen eye for essential traits, a sense of humour and a touch of malice, the Egyptian rejoiced in caricature, and traces of its spirit are observable even in portrait statues. In the present case the details have evidently been closely studied and purposely exaggerated. The type may be seen in many wall-paintings, but whilst in them the artist is bound by convention, here he has a freer hand, and his treatment is almost Japanese in character. He has succeeded in giving a startling effect of life to the stretched mouth and the black beady eyes with their mesmeric stare, and as is usual in the best Egyptian style, he has contrived to produce the impression of a larger image. The favourite subject for small models of this kind is the negro; figures of Asiatics are very rare, and this specimen is believer to be unexampled.

5 An ivory Figure of a seated Youth, in high relief, 3 *in. high,* naked, a cloak under him and over his left shoulder, looking round, no doubt towards another figure not preserved : *fine Greek work of the Hellenistic period; found in Persia near Rages* :—in glass case. [**Pl. I**]

6 A marble Torso of Dionysos, represented as a boy, $27\frac{3}{4}$ *in. high* : the weight rests on the left leg, the right leg is drawn to the side; the head was probably turned to the figure's left : a long lock of hair hangs down on each side of the head : there are remains of the tree-trunk support on the left thigh behind, *Furtwängler and other German experts were of opinion that this was a Greek original: if not, it is a good Roman copy after a charming Greek original of the fourth century* B.C. :—on stand. [**Pl. II**]

⁂ From the Barberini collection, Rome.

Lot 7

A MARBLE STATUETTE OF APHRODITE,

21 *in. high in its present state;* missing, the legs below the knees and the arms from below the shoulders; Greek marble. The head was broken off and is replaced: the break is clean, and the head quite certainly belongs to the body; part of the left shoulder-blade had also splintered off and has been put back; there are no restorations; the surface is in fine condition, and the tone of the marble is charming. The right arm was lowered (probably bent at the elbow), the left was raised; the attitude of the body, the strong turn of the head, and the raised arm, point to some rather vigorous action; the goddess was probably twisting her hair into a knot at the back. We have called the figure Aphrodite, and it is probably Aphrodite rather than a nymph; she is represented younger than usual (perhaps about sixteen or seventeen), but so she is, for example, in the Anadyomene of the Gabinetto delle Maschere in the Vatican.

The statue stands by itself; there are no ancient replicas known, and it is undoubtedly a Greek original. The date is probably the early Hellenistic period, say about 300 B.C. The twists of the body and head point to a period not much earlier than this; a certain analogy is provided by the Apollo of Cyrene in the British Museum (turns of head and body, small mouth, treatment of hair); the original of which the Apollo is a fine Roman copy has been assigned to the fourth century, but it was more probably Hellenistic.

The modelling of our statue is of great beauty, and the back is as fine as the front. The photographs do not quite do justice to the head, which is bolder in modelling than here appears.

THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT AND BEAUTIFUL PIECE, AND ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING REPRESENTATIONS OF THE GODDESS THAT HAVE COME DOWN TO US.

The statuette is mounted on a marble revolving stand.

[*For Illustrations see* **Frontispiece** *and* **Pl. III** *and* **IV**].

8 A LIFE-SIZE MARBLE HEAD OF A YOUTH, probably the young Dionysos, 11 *in. high*: the tip of nose is missing; the work is otherwise in excellent condition, with the surface undamaged. *A fine Roman copy of a charming original of the fourth century* B.C.:—on marble stand. [**Pl. V** *and* **VI**]

9 A MARBLE HEAD OF APHRODITE, 8 *in. high,* part of the nose, of the lips, and of the chin are modern. *Roman copy of a Hellenistic original; found in Alexandria*:—on marble stand. [**Pl. VII**]

10 A MARBLE STATUETTE OF APHRODITE, 14 *in. high*: the head is a modern addition. *Roman work on a Hellenistic model; from Alexandria*:—on marble stand. [**Pl. VIII**]

11 A clay Head of a Goddess, 5½ *in. high*: part of the bust is restored. *South Italian Greek work of the second quarter of the fifth century* B.C.; *found close to Bologna*:—on stand

12 A clay Head of a Goddess, 3¼ *in. high, Greek work of the early part of the fifth century* B.C.; *found at Selinunte in Sicily*:—on marble stand

13 A PART OF A LARGE TABLE-LEG in giallo antico, 17 *in. high*: the upper part is in the form of a panther's head and neck with wide-open mouth, the lower part is decorated with acanthus leaves: part of the lower jaw is restored: the eyes are inlaid in dark green stone or paste: *very handsome Roman work; from Alexandria*:—on marble stand. **[Pl. IX]**

14 A PART OF A TABLE-LEG in Egyptian alabaster, 11 *in. high*: the upper part is in the form of a lion's head. *Roman; from Egypt*:—on marble stand. **[Pl. X]**

15 A marble Head, 7¼ *in. high,* part of a statuette of Silvanus, crowned with pine: the nose and part of the upper lip are restored in plaster. *Roman work; found in Rome*:—on stand. **[Pl. XI]**

16 A marble Head, 3¾ *in. high,* part of a statuette of a girl wearing her hair in the "melon" fashion: mouth and chin and the greater part of the nose are modern: *late Greek (Alexandria ?) work; found in one of the Greek islands*:—on marble stand. **[Pl. XI]**

17 A marble Head, 3 *in. high,* part of a statuette of Asklepios, *late Greek or Roman period, from Alexandria*; and a small Head in marble, 1¼ *in. high,* wearing a flat cap 2

18 A marble Head and neck of Bacchus, 10½ *in. high,* crowned with grapes and vine leaves: the nose missing:—on marble stand

19 A FINELY SCULPTURED HEAD OF A YOUTHFUL SATYR, 4¼ *in. high,* in red quartz: part of the top and back of the head are missing, but apart from minor cracks and abrasions the face is perfect:—on stand, a square block of serpentine marble. [**Pl. XI**]

*** This head is stated to have been found many years ago at a depth of 9 metres close to the Piazza Colonna, in Rome.

20 A WELL-MODELLED TORSO, 15 *in. high,* of a Dancing Faun, in alabaster, *said to have been taken from the sea bed off the coast of Egypt*:—on marble stand. [**Pl. XII**]

*** Published in the Burlington Magazine, vol. XLIII, p. 194, 1923.

END OF SALE.

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SOTHEBY & Co.'s

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FINE SCULPTURE.

JUNE 12th, 1928.

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1	Dennison	2	10	0	12	Green	5	0	0
2	Harris, Lionel ...	20	0	0	13	Chatfield	260	0	0
3	Dennison	2	10	0	14	Chatfield	32	0	0
4	Ingram	98	0	0	15	Ingram	3	10	0
5	May	10	10	0	16	McAlpin	7	10	0
6	Stedman	220	0	0	17	Adamson	1	1	0
7	Savile Gallery	1500	0	0	18	Preston	3	3	0
8	Hyde	68	0	0	19	Thurgood	85	0	0
9	Douglas	20	0	0	20	Moffatt	190	0	0
10	Crawley	5	5	0					
11	Douglas	1	1	0		Total of Sale ...	£2,535	0	0

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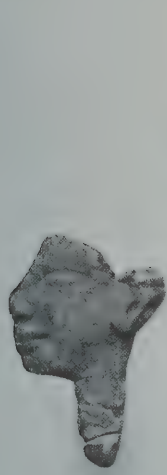
PLATE I.



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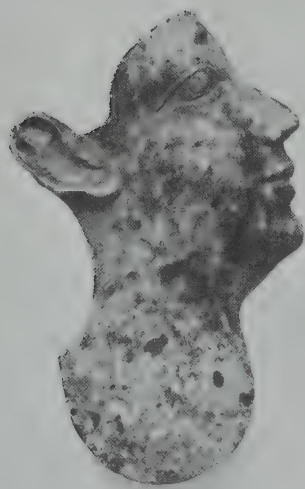

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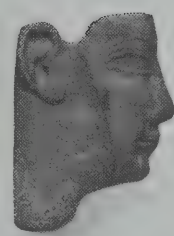

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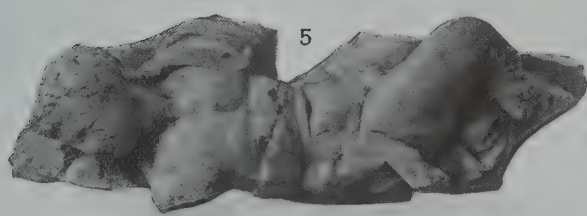

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PLATE V.

PLATE VI.

PLATE VII.

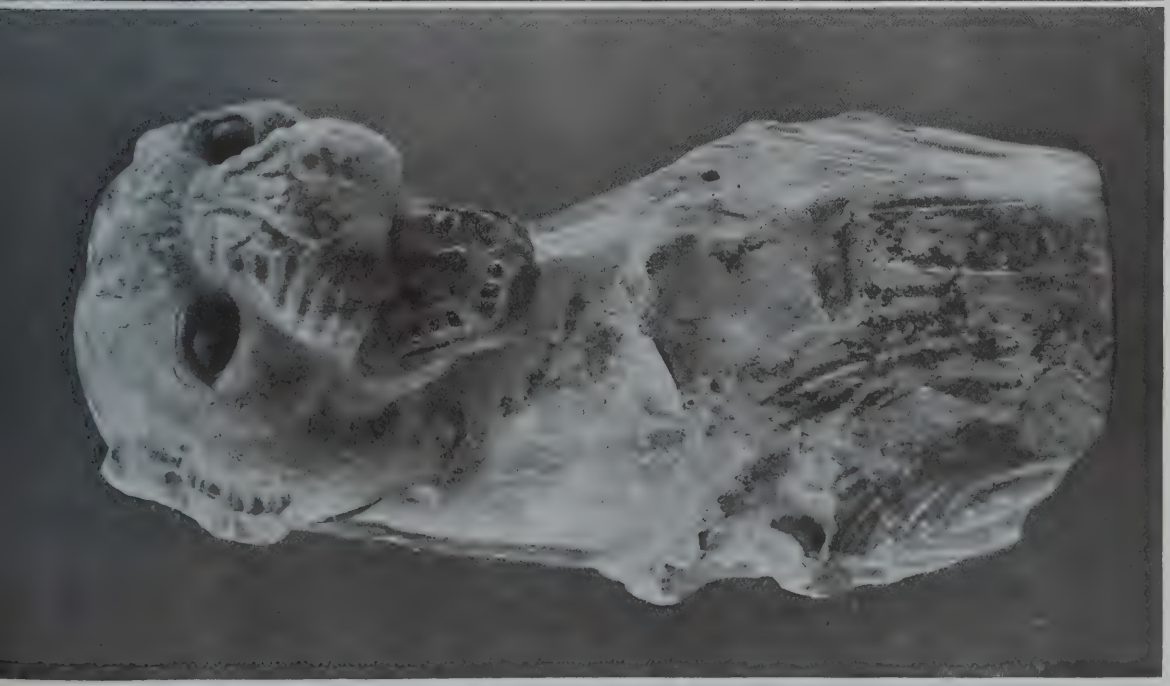
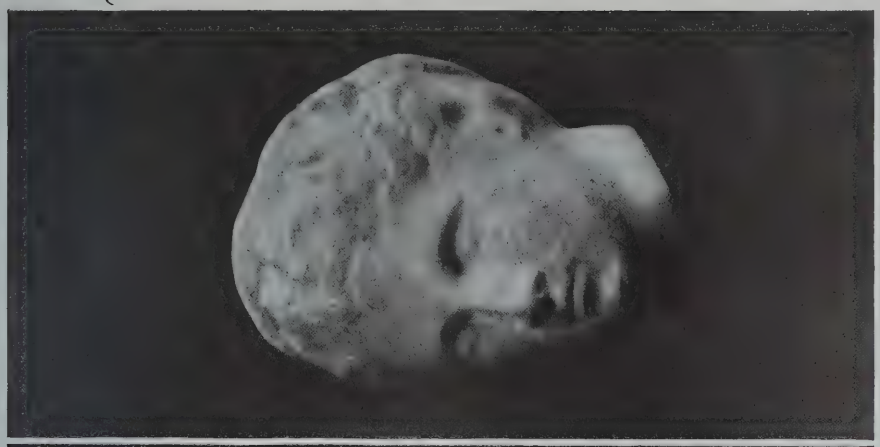


PLATE X.

PLATE XI.



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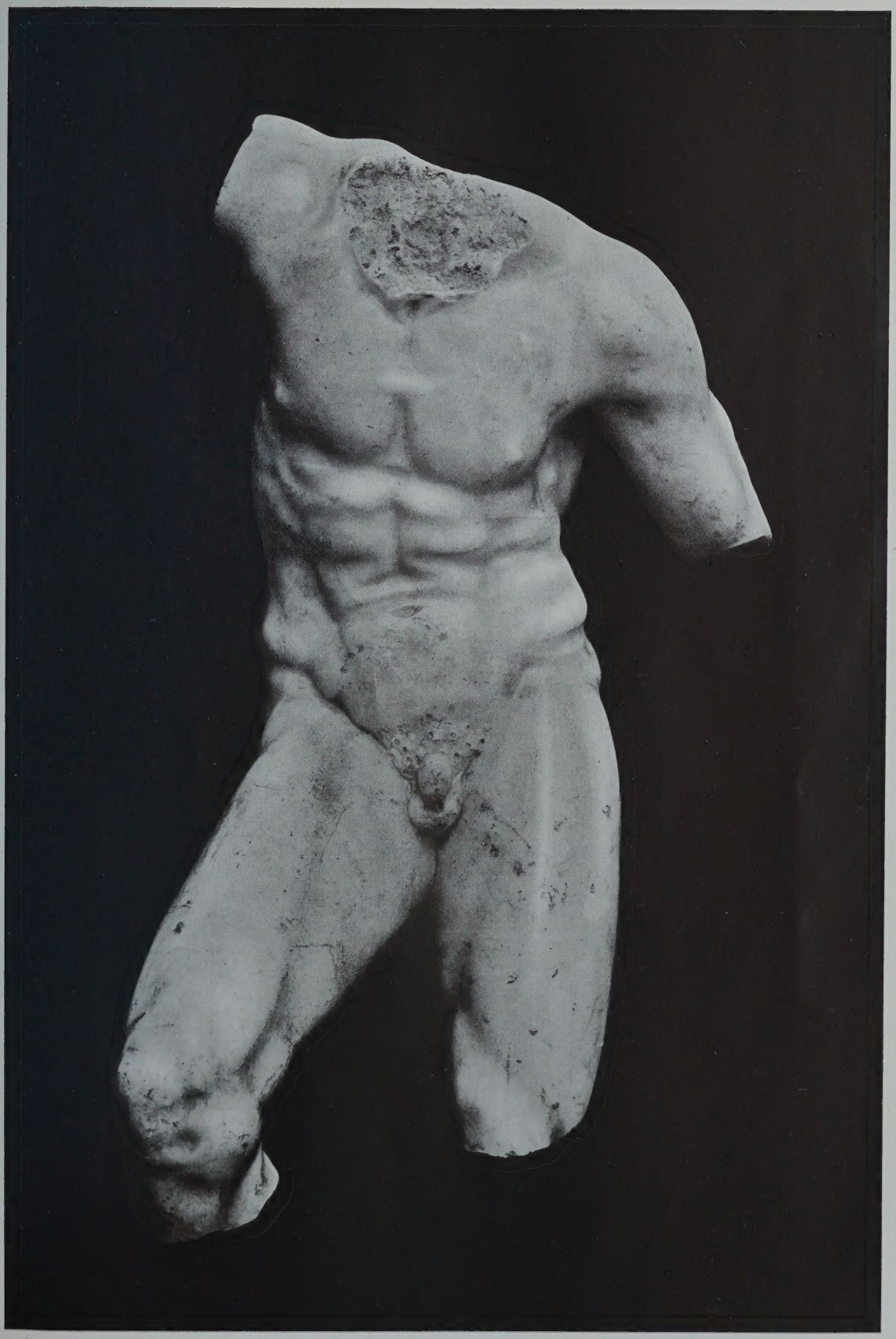

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